

In the Claims

The status of claims in the case is as follows:

1 1. ~~[Original]~~ Currently amended] A method for scheduling a
2 plurality of individual meetings with a plurality of invitee
3 users on a calendar of a primary user, comprising the steps
4 of:

5 said primary user creating a primary appointment
6 template identifying available meeting times;

7 sending a meeting request to said plurality of invitee
8 users instructing each said invitee user to access said
9 primary appointment template to schedule an individual
10 appointment with said primary user to said plurality of
11 ~~invitee users; [[and]]~~

12 each said invitee user sequentially accessing ~~selecting~~
13 ~~an available time from~~ said primary appointment
14 template to schedule ~~a meeting~~ an individual
15 appointment with said primary user at a time indicated
16 as available on said primary appointment template;

17 upon each said invitee user selecting an available time
18 from said primary appointment template for an
19 individual appointment, updating said primary
20 appointment template to remove said individual
21 appointment from said available time for invitee users
22 subsequently accessing said primary appointment
23 template.

1 2. [Original] The method of claim 1, further comprising
2 the steps of identifying available meeting times on said
3 primary appointment template by specifying days worked,
4 workday start and ending times, and by blocking out
5 previously scheduled appointments and break times on said
6 calendar of said primary user.

1 3. [Original] The method of claim 2, further comprising
2 the step of creating said primary appointment template by
3 merging a default template and said calendar with primary
4 user selected meeting length, time frame and time
5 restriction objects, said default template defining said
6 days worked, said workday start and ending times, and said
7 break times, and said calendar defining said previously
8 scheduled appointments.

1 4. [Original] The method of claim 2, further comprising
2 the steps responsive to a first invitee user selecting a
3 first available time of dynamically scheduling a first
4 meeting at said first available time, entering said first
5 meeting into said primary appointment template, notifying
6 said primary user and said first invitee user of said first
7 meeting, and blocking further invitee users from scheduling
8 a second meeting conflicting with said first available time.

1 5. [Original] The method of claim 2, further comprising
2 the steps of said plurality of invitee users iteratively
3 selecting multiple meeting times from said primary
4 appointment template until there is one time selected by
5 each said invitee user, and notifying said primary user and
6 said plurality of invitee users of said one time.

1 6. [Original] The method of claim 4, further comprising
2 the steps of creating said primary appointment template as a
3 two dimensional array of objects, each said object
4 representing a block of time and an attribute.

1 7. [Original] The method of claim 6, said attribute being
2 selected from the group of attributes including current
3 scheduled meeting, free time, start time, end time, and

4 break time.

1 8. [Original] The method of claim 7, further comprising
2 the step of presenting to said primary user a menu entry and
3 associated pop-up windows for creating said primary
4 appointment template.

1 9. [Original] The method of claim 8, further comprising
2 the step of distributing said primary appointment template
3 as a graphic object including time slots available for
4 selection by prospective meeting attendees.

1 10. [Original] The method of claim 2, further comprising
2 the step of:

3 responsive to said first invitee user receiving a note
4 with a meeting request from said primary user, said
5 first invitee user opening said note and displaying
6 said primary appointment template in graphical format,
7 said primary appointment template being retrieved from
8 a primary server upon said note being opened.

1 11. [Original] The method of claim 10, further comprising
2 the step of:

3 upon said first invitee user selecting an available
4 meeting time, updating said primary appointment
5 template to block further invitee users from selecting
6 said meeting time selected by said first invitee user.

1 12. [Currently amended] The method of claim 11, further
2 comprising the step of:

3 responsive to said first invitee user opening said note
4 containing said primary appointment template, creating
5 from said primary appointment template and a calendar
6 object for said first invitee user a first merged
7 appointment template object from which said first
8 invitee user ~~may select~~ selects said available meeting
9 time.

1 13. [Original] The method of claim 12, further comprising
2 the step of configuring time blocks of available meeting
3 times in said first merged appointment template object as
4 buttons, selection of a button resulting in the step of
5 sending an accept meeting request message to said primary
6 server.

1 14. [Original] The method of claim 13, each said time

2 block being a hyperlink linking said first invitee user to a
3 web page on said primary server for disabling said time
4 block from further selection in said primary appointment
5 template and updating a calendar object for said primary
6 user at said primary server.

1 15. [Original] The method of claim 4, further comprising
2 the step of distributing an updated primary appointment
3 template to said further invitee users responsive to said
4 first invitee user selecting said first available time.

1 16. [Original] The method of claim 4, further comprising
2 the step of distributing an updated primary appointment
3 template to a second invitee user responsive to said second
4 invitee user opening a copy of said note containing said
5 primary meeting template.

1 17. [Currently amended] System for scheduling a plurality
2 of meetings with a plurality of individuals on a calendar of
3 a primary user, comprising:

4 a primary appointment template object for storing a
5 plurality of available time slots in said calendar of
6 said primary user;

7 a primary server for storing said first appointment
8 template object;

9 a plurality of calendar template objects, a said
10 calendar template object for each of a plurality of
11 invitee users;

12 a calendar tool for distributing a meeting request from
13 said primary user to said plurality of invitee users
14 instructing each said invitee user to access said first
15 appointment template object ~~to a plurality of said~~
16 ~~invitee users~~ to schedule an individual appointment
17 with said primary user;

18 said calendar tool further for updating said primary
19 appointment template object to remove from said
20 available time slots times selected for each said
21 individual appointment;

22 each said ~~plurality of said invitee users having user~~
23 having a selector for selecting an available time slot
24 from said first appointment template object at said
25 primary server.

26 18. [Original] The system of claim 17, said primary
27 appointment template object comprising a default template
28 and appointment calendar merged with primary user selected
29 meeting length, time frame and time restrictions objects.

1 19. [Original] The system of claim 18, said default
2 template specifying work days, start, end and break times
3 and said appointment calendar specifying periodic and other
4 appointments on the appointment calendar of said primary
5 user.

1 20. [Currently amended] A program storage device readable
2 by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions
3 executable by a machine to perform method steps for
4 scheduling a plurality of meetings with a plurality of
5 invitee users on a calendar of a primary user, said method
6 steps comprising:

7 said primary user creating a primary appointment
8 template identifying available meeting times;

9 sending a meeting request to said plurality of invitee
10 users instructing each said invitee user to access said
11 primary appointment template to schedule an individual

12 ~~appointment with said primary user to said plurality of~~
13 ~~invitee users; [[and]]~~

14 each said invitee user sequentially accessing ~~selecting~~
15 ~~an available time from~~ said primary appointment
16 template to schedule ~~a meeting~~ an individual
17 appointment with said primary user at a time indicated
18 as available on said primary appointment template;

19 upon each said invitee user selecting an available time
20 from said primary appointment template for an
21 individual appointment, updating said primary
22 appointment template to remove said individual
23 appointment from said available time for invitee users
24 subsequently accessing said primary appointment
25 template.

1 21. [Original] The program storage device of claim 20,
2 said method steps further comprising the steps of
3 identifying available meeting times on said primary
4 appointment template by specifying days worked, workday
5 start and ending times, and by blocking out previously
6 scheduled appointments and break times on said calendar of
7 said primary user.

1 22. [Original] The program storage device of claim 21,
2 said method steps further comprising the step of creating
3 said primary appointment template by merging a default
4 template and said calendar with primary user selected
5 meeting length, time frame and time restriction objects,
6 said default template defining said days worked, said
7 workday start and ending times, and said break times, and
8 said calendar defining said previously scheduled
9 appointments.

1 23. [Original] The program storage device of claim 21,
2 said method steps further comprising the steps responsive to
3 a first invitee user selecting a first available time of
4 dynamically scheduling a first meeting at said first
5 available time, entering said first meeting into said
6 primary appointment template, notifying said primary user
7 and said first invitee user of said first meeting, and
8 blocking further invitee users from scheduling a second
9 meeting conflicting with said first available time.

1 24. [Original] The program storage device of claim 21,
2 said method steps further comprising the steps of said
3 plurality of invitee users iteratively selecting multiple

4 meeting times from said primary appointment template until
5 there is one time selected by each said invitee user, and
6 notifying said primary user and said plurality of invitee
7 users of said one time.

1 25. [Original] The program storage device of claim 23,
2 said method steps further comprising the steps of creating
3 said primary appointment template as a two dimensional array
4 of objects, each said object representing a block of time
5 and an attribute.

1 26. [Original] The program storage device of claim 25,
2 said method steps said attribute being selected from the
3 group of attributes including current scheduled meeting,
4 free time, start time, end time, and break time.

1 27. [Original] The program storage device of claim 26,
2 said method steps further comprising the step of presenting
3 to said primary user a menu entry and associated pop-up
4 windows for creating said primary appointment template.

1 28. [Original] The program storage device of claim 27,
2 said method steps further comprising the step of
3 distributing said primary appointment template as a graphic

4 object including time slots available for selection by
5 prospective meeting attendees.

1 29. [Original] The program storage device of claim 21,
2 said method steps further comprising the step of:

3 responsive to said first invitee user receiving a note
4 with a meeting request from said primary user, said
5 first invitee user opening said note and displaying
6 said primary appointment template in graphical format,
7 said primary appointment template being retrieved from
8 a primary server upon said note being opened.

1 30. [Original] The program storage device of claim 29,
2 said method steps further comprising the step of:

3 upon said first invitee user selecting an available
4 meeting time, updating said primary appointment
5 template to block further invitee users from selecting
6 said meeting time selected by said first invitee user.

1 31. [Original] The program storage device of claim 30,
2 said method steps further comprising the step of:

3 responsive to said first invitee user opening said note
4 containing said primary appointment template, creating
5 from said primary appointment template and a calendar
6 object for said first invitee user a first merged
7 appointment template object from which said first
8 invitee user ~~may select~~ selects said available meeting
9 time.

1 32. [Original] The program storage device of claim 31,
2 said method steps further comprising the step of configuring
3 time blocks of available meeting times in said first merged
4 appointment template object as buttons, selection of a
5 button resulting in the step of sending an accept meeting
6 request message to said primary server.

1 33. [Original] The program storage device of claim 32,
2 each said time block being a hyperlink linking said first
3 invitee user to a web page on said primary server for
4 disabling said time block from further selection in said
5 primary appointment template and updating a calendar object
6 for said primary user at said primary server.

1 34. [Original] The program storage device of claim 23,
2 said method steps further comprising the step of

3 distributing an updated primary appointment template to
4 said further invitee users responsive to said first invitee
5 user selecting said first available time.

1 35. [Original] The program storage device of claim 23,
2 said method steps further comprising the step of
3 distributing an updated primary appointment template to a
4 second invitee user responsive to said second invitee user
5 opening a copy of said note containing said primary meeting
6 template.

1 36. [Original] A computer program product ~~or computer~~
2 ~~program element~~ for scheduling a plurality of meetings with
3 a plurality of invitee users on a calendar of a primary
4 user, said computer program product according to method
5 ~~steps~~ comprising:

6 a computer readable medium;

7 first program instructions for creating a primary
8 appointment template identifying available meeting
9 times on the calendar of said primary user;

10 second program instructions for sending a meeting

request to said plurality of invitee users instructing
each said invitee user to access said primary
appointment template to schedule an individual
appointment with said primary user to said plurality of
invitee users; [[and]]

third program instructions executed by each said
invitee user selecting to sequentially access an
available time from said primary appointment template
to schedule a meeting an individual appointment with
said primary user at a time indicated as available on
said primary appointment template;

fourth program instructions executed, as each said
invitee user selects an available time from said
primary appointment template for an individual
appointment, to update said primary appointment
template to remove said individual appointment from
said available time for invitee users subsequently
accessing said primary appointment template; and
wherein

said first, second, third, and fourth program
instructions are recorded on said computer readable

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medium.